

APRIL CENDEJAS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud April Cendejas for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. April Cendejas is a 10th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by April Cendejas is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to April Cendejas for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING RECIPIENTS OF THE  
FULBRIGHT AWARD

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2013*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the individuals from the 23rd District of New York who were recently awarded the Fulbright Award. Thirteen constituents from my district were selected to receive this prestigious honor: Dr. Christopher Barrett, Ms. Emily Brown, Ms. Abena Bruce, Ms. Dina Bryan, Dr. Abigail Cohn, Dr. Matthew Evangelista, Mr. Andrew Hart, Dr. Teresa Jordan, Ms. Catherine Kearns, Mr. Joshua Kim, Mr. John Maher, Dr. Judith McKinney, and Ms. Sarah Steece.

The recipients include both undergraduate students and scholars from a wide range of higher education institutions including Cornell University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Ithaca College, New York University, Stanford University, and Williams College.

The Fulbright Program is America's largest international exchange program, having linked over a quarter of a million students with more than 155 countries worldwide. These opportunities not only offer our students a chance to educate themselves in foreign nations but these programs also help to strengthen our relationships with their host countries. Since 1977 when the Fulbright Association was established, many notable individuals have been recipients of this award. Ten Fulbright recipients have been elected to the United States Congress, 43 have received a Nobel Prize, and 78 have received the Pulitzer Prize.

Fulbright Award recipients are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement as well as the leadership potential they show in their fields. It is a privilege to represent a district that so many of these award recipients call home. The bar has now been set very high, and I am proud to have them representing our nation as ambassadors abroad.

ON THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF  
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2013*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, as a proud Irish American, I was pleased this past Sunday to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Celebrating our heritage today has become an American tradition that extends beyond those Americans of Irish heritage. But that wasn't always the case. For many years, Irish Americans faced discrimination and struggled to gain acceptance and economic stability in the great melting pot that is America.

The story of Irish Americans and all Americans needs to be told. We are a nation of immigrants. But there is no place today where one can go to learn the full story of who we are as a nation and the stories of the many, vibrant ethnicities that make up the fabric of the American experience. The story about the making of the American People—of all of the people—is missing and it needs to be told in the heart of our nation's capital.

That's why I am introducing a bipartisan resolution that calls for a Presidential Commission to study the establishment of the National Museum of the American People. I am joined in effort by my colleagues JOHN DUNCAN, CAROLYN MALONEY, CHARLIE RANGEL, FRANK WOLF, GERALD CONNOLLY, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, BOBBY SCOTT, DAVID CICILLINE, TIM WALZ, TIM BISHOP, TOM COLE and JIM GERLACH.

A commission is the first critical step in the path toward the creation of a national museum that will highlight the diversity and richness of the cultures from which our ancestors came and will foster a sense of belonging to the nation by the waves of people who made us the leading economic, military, scientific, and cultural force in the world. The Museum's central theme takes its inspiration from our original national motto: "E Pluribus Unum"—From Many We Are One.

The Museum will be America's only national institution devoted exclusively to telling the full story of how the world's pioneers interwove their diverse races, religions, and ethnicities into the strongest societal fabric ever known to modern mankind. Both Canada and Mexico have major national museums in their capitals telling the story of their peoples and they are the most visited museums in those nations. People from every ethnic and minority group will come to see their own story and learn how they joined together with "the others" in pursuit of a more noble national purpose. Foreign visitors will come to learn how natives of their countries helped create our nation.

I fully understand the current fiscal realities of the day. This proposal will involve no authorization of federal funds and will not require the need for any taxpayer money. It does, however, already enjoy broad support having been endorsed by more than 150 organizations representing virtually every major ethnic and nationality group in the nation.

For the different groups who became Americans, the Museum will tell who, where, when, why and how transformed our nation. Today's technology makes all of this possible.

The Museum of the American People will be like walking through a dramatic documentary

delving into these grand movements of peoples. It will follow in the tradition of some of today's most successful story-telling museums such as the Holocaust Memorial Museum. The goal will be to tell our peoples' compelling story with force and clarity.

In telling everyone's story, the National Museum of the American People would recognize the important differences that set us apart while celebrating the common purpose that has brought us together—E Pluribus Unum.

I encouraged my colleagues to support this measure.

ARIANNA MARTINEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2013*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Arianna Martinez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Arianna Martinez is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Arianna Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Arianna Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2013*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: On rollcall No. 73—"yea"; No. 74—"yea"; No. 75—"nay."

HONORING SANDRA SECREST FOR  
30 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 19, 2013*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Sandra Secrest for her 30 years of public service to the Metrocrest area which encompasses the North Texas cities of Carrollton, Farmers Branch, and Addison.

Sandra Secrest was born and raised in Farmers Branch and graduated from W.T. White High School in 1979. She then attended Texas A&M University from 1979 to 1983 where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Education.

Following graduation in 1983, Sandra Secrest returned home to Farmers Branch